## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

**REGION 6** 1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200 DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

FEB 1 2 2004

The Honorable Bill Richardson Governor of New Mexico Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear Governor Richardson:

Thank you for your letter of December 22, 2003, forwarding the State of New Mexico's recommendations on air quality designations for the particulate matter 2.5 (PM 2.5) National Ambient Air Quality Standard.

Based on 2000-2002 ambient PM 2.5 data, you recommend attainment for the entire State of New Mexico. We will carefully review New Mexico's recommendation and work with both the New Mexico Environment Department and the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Air Quality Control Board, if questions arise, as we work to make our final designations.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (214) 665-2100, or have your staff call Mr. Thomas Diggs of my staff at (214) 665-7214.

Sincerely yours,

Regional Administrator

CC:

Mr. Ron Curry, Secretary, NMED

Mr. Jim Norton, Division Director, Environmental Protection Division, NMED

Ms. Sandra Ely, Air Quality Bureau Chief, NMED

Mr. Alfredo Santistevan, Director, Albuquerque Environmental Health Department

Mr. Israel Tavarez, Manager, Air Quality Division

Albuquerque Environmental Health Department